<u>IN THE CLAIMS</u>

Upon entry of the claim changes made in the Amendment dated June 22, 2004, please further amend the claims as follows. The following is a complete listing of the claims, and replaces all earlier versions and listings.

1.   (Currently Amended) An image communication apparatus comprising:

means for reading an image and generating image data representing the image;

means for <u>embedding</u> ~~adding~~ transmission information for a header or footer <u>in</u> ~~onto~~ the image data <u>so that the transmission information and the image data form a single body of image data</u>;

means for compressing the image data <u>in which the transmission information has been embedded</u> ~~onto which the transmission information has been added~~ and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for transmitting the <u>compressed</u> image data that has been stored in the memory.

2.   (Currently Amended) An image communication apparatus comprising:

means for <u>embedding</u> ~~adding~~ transmission information for a header or footer <u>in</u> ~~onto~~ image data that has been entered <u>so that the transmission information and the image data form a single body of image data</u>;

means for compressing the image data <u>in which the transmission information has been embedded</u> ~~onto which the transmission information has been added~~ and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for transmitting the <u>compressed</u> image data that has been stored in the memory.

3.   (Currently Amended) An image communication apparatus comprising:

means for reading an image and successively storing image data representing the image in a buffer;

means for extracting the image data from the buffer in prescribed area units of the image;

means for determining whether transmission information for a header or footer is to be <u>embedded in</u> ~~added onto~~ each item of image data extracted;

means for <u>embedding</u> ~~adding~~ the transmission information <u>in</u> ~~onto~~ the image data that has been determined to have the transmission information <u>embedded</u> <u>therein</u> ~~added thereto~~ <u>so that the transmission information and the image data form a single</u> <u>body of image data;</u>

means for compressing the image data in the area units and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for transmitting the <u>compressed</u> image data that has been stored in the memory.

4.   (Canceled)

5.   (Currently Amended) An image communication apparatus comprising:

means for reading an image and generating image data representing the image;

means for ~~adding~~ embedding transmission information for a header or footer ~~onto~~ in the image data so that the transmission information and the image data form a single body of image data;

means for compressing the image data in which the transmission information has been embedded ~~onto which the transmission information has been added~~ and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for transmitting the compressed image data that has been stored in the memory without expanding or re-compressing the compressed image data.

6. (Currently Amended) An image communication method comprising the steps of:

embedding ~~adding~~ transmission information for a header or footer in ~~onto~~ image data representing an image that has been read so that the transmission information and the image data form a single body of image data;

compressing the image data in which the transmission information has been embedded ~~onto which the transmission information has been added~~ and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

transmitting the compressed image data that has been stored in the memory.

7. (Currently Amended) An image communication method comprising the steps of:

embedding ~~adding~~ transmission information for a header or footer in ~~onto~~ image data representing an image that has been entered so that the transmission information and the image data form a single body of image data;

compressing the image data <u>in which the transmission information</u> <u>has been embedded</u> ~~onto which the transmission information has been added~~ and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

transmitting the <u>compressed</u> image data that has been stored in the memory.

8.   (Currently Amended) An image communication method comprising:

a reading step, of reading an image and generating image data representing the image;

a storage step, of compressing the image data and storing the compressed image data in a memory;

a transmitting step, of transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory; and

an <u>embedding</u> ~~adding~~ step, of <u>embedding</u> ~~adding~~ transmission information for a header or footer <u>in</u> ~~onto~~ the image data <u>so that the transmission information and the</u> <u>image data form a single body of image data</u> after said reading step and before said storage step.

9.   (Currently Amended) An image communication method comprising the steps of:

reading an image and successively storing image data representing the image in a buffer;

extracting the image data from the buffer in prescribed area units of the image;

determining whether transmission information for a header or footer is to be <u>embedded in</u> ~~added onto~~ each item of image data extracted;

embedding ~~adding~~ the transmission information in ~~onto~~ the image

data that has been determined to have the transmission information ~~added thereto~~

embedded therein so that the transmission information and the image data form a single

body of image data;

compressing the image data in the area units and storing the

compressed image data in a memory; and

transmitting the compressed image data that has been stored in the

memory.

10.   (Canceled)

11.   (Currently Amended) An image communication method comprising

the steps of:

embedding ~~adding~~ transmission information for a header or footer in

~~onto~~ image data representing an image that has been read so that the transmission

information and the image data form a single body of image data;

compressing the image data in ~~onto~~ which the transmission

information has been embedded ~~added~~ and storing the compressed image data in a

memory; and

transmitting the compressed image data that has been stored in the

memory without expanding or re-compressing the compressed image data.

12.   (Currently Amended) A storage medium storing a program for

causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication

apparatus in order to transmit image data:

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means for embedding ~~adding~~ transmission information for a header or footer in ~~onto~~ the image data so that the transmission information and the image data form a single body of image data;

means for compressing the image data in ~~onto~~ which the transmission information has been embedded ~~added~~ and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for transmitting the compressed image data that has been stored in the memory.

13. (Currently Amended) A storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus in order to transmit image data that has been entered:

means for embedding ~~adding~~ transmission information for a header or footer in ~~onto~~ the image data so that the transmission information and the image data form a single body of image data;

means for compressing the image data in which the transmission information has been embedded ~~onto which the transmission information has been added~~ and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for transmitting the compressed image data that has been stored in the memory.

14. (Currently Amended) A storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus, which has means for reading an image and successively storing image data representing the image in a buffer, in order to transmit the image data:

means for extracting the image data from the buffer in prescribed area units of the image;

means for determining whether transmission information for a header or footer is to be <u>embedded in</u> ~~added~~ onto each item of image data extracted;

means for <u>embedding</u> ~~adding~~ the transmission information <u>in</u> ~~onto~~ the image data that has been determined to have the transmission information ~~added thereto~~ <u>embedded therein so that the transmission information and the image data form a single body of image data</u>;

means for compressing the image data in the area units and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for transmitting the <u>compressed</u> image data that has been stored in the memory.

15.   (Canceled)

16.   (Currently Amended) A storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in order to transmit image data that has been entered:

means for <u>embedding</u> ~~adding~~ transmission information for a header or footer <u>in</u> ~~onto~~ the image data <u>so that the transmission information and the image data form a single body of image data</u>;

means for compressing the image data <u>in which the transmission information has been embedded</u> ~~onto which the transmission information has been added~~ and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for transmitting the <u>compressed</u> image data that has been stored in the memory without expanding or <u>re-</u>compressing the <u>compressed</u> image data.

17.   (Currently Amended) An image communication apparatus comprising:

means for reading an image and generating image data representing the image;

means for compressing the image data and adding on a marker that is for embedding ~~adding on~~ transmission information for a header or footer;

means for storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for detecting the marker from the <u>compressed</u> image data that has been stored in the memory, and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the <u>compressed</u> image data with <u>compressed</u> data ~~relating to~~ <u>in which the</u> transmission information <u>is embedded</u>.

18.   (Currently Amended) An image communication apparatus comprising:

means for compressing image data that has been entered and adding on a marker that is for <u>embedding</u> ~~adding on~~ transmission information for a header or footer;

means for storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for detecting the marker from the <u>compressed</u> image data that has been stored in the memory and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the <u>compressed</u> image data with <u>compressed</u> data ~~relating to~~ <u>in which the</u> transmission information <u>is embedded</u>.

19.   (Currently Amended) An image communication apparatus comprising:

means for reading an image and successively storing image data representing the image in a buffer;

means for extracting the image data from the buffer in prescribed area units of the image;

means for compressing each item of image data that has been
extracted and adding on a marker that is for <u>embedding</u> ~~adding on~~ transmission information
for a header or footer;

means for storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for detecting the marker from the <u>compressed</u> image data that
has been stored in the memory, replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker
resides, some of the <u>compressed</u> image data with <u>compressed</u> data ~~relating to~~ <u>in which the</u>
transmission information <u>is embedded, and transmitting the compressed image data,</u>
<u>wherein the compressed data</u> ~~which~~ has been compressed according to a compression
format identical to the compression format of the image data~~, and transmitting this image~~
~~data~~.

20.   (Canceled)

21.   (Currently Amended) An image communication apparatus
comprising:

means for reading an image and generating image data representing
the image;

means for compressing the image data and adding on a marker that is
for <u>embedding</u> ~~adding on~~ transmission information for a header or footer;

means for storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for detecting the marker from the <u>compressed</u> image data that
has been stored in the memory, replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker
resides, some of the <u>compressed</u> image data with <u>compressed</u> data ~~relating to~~ <u>in which the</u>
transmission information <u>is embedded, and transmitting the compressed image data without</u>
<u>expanding or re-compressing it, wherein the compressed data</u> ~~which~~ has been compressed

according to a compression format identical with the compression format of the image data; and transmitting this image data without expanding or compressing the image data.

22.   (Currently Amended) An image communication method comprising the steps of:

compressing image data that has been read and adding on a marker that is for embedding ~~adding on~~ transmission information for a header or footer;

storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

detecting the marker from the compressed image data that has been stored in the memory, and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the compressed image data with compressed data ~~relating to~~ in which the transmission information is embedded.

23.   (Currently Amended) An image communication method comprising the steps of:

compressing image data that has been entered and adding on a marker that is for embedding ~~adding on~~ transmission information for a header or footer;

storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

detecting the marker from the compressed image data that has been stored in the memory, and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the compressed image data with compressed data ~~relating to~~ in which the transmission information is embedded.

24.   (Currently Amended) An image communication method comprising the steps of:

reading an image and successively storing image data representing the image in a buffer;

extracting the image data from the buffer in prescribed area units of the image;

compressing each item of image data that has been extracted and adding on a marker that is for embedding ~~adding on~~ transmission information for a header or footer;

storing the compressed image data in <u>a</u> memory; and

detecting the marker from the <u>compressed</u> image data that has been stored in the memory, and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the <u>compressed</u> image data with <u>compressed</u> data ~~relating to~~ <u>in which the</u> transmission information <u>is embedded</u>.

25.   (Canceled)

26.   (Currently Amended) An image communication method comprising the steps of:

compressing image data that has been read and adding on a marker that is for embedding ~~adding on~~ transmission information <u>for a header or footer</u>;

storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

detecting the marker from the <u>compressed</u> image data that has been stored in the memory, replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the <u>compressed</u> image data with <u>compressed</u> data <u>in which</u> ~~relating to~~ <u>the</u> transmission information <u>is embedded, and transmitting the compressed image data without expanding or re-compressing it</u> ~~for a header or footer, and transmitting the image data without expanding or compressing it~~.

27.   (Currently Amended) A storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus in order to transmit image data:

means for compressing the image data and adding on a marker that is for embedding ~~adding on~~ transmission information for a header or footer;

means for storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for detecting the marker from the compressed image data that has been stored in the memory, and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the compressed image data with compressed data ~~relating to~~ in which the transmission information ~~for a header or footer~~ is embedded.

28.   (Currently Amended) A storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus in order to transmit image data that has been entered:

means for compressing image data that has been entered and adding on a marker that is for embedding ~~adding on~~ transmission information for a header or footer;

means for storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for detecting the marker from the compressed image data that has been stored in the memory and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the compressed image data with compressed data in which ~~relating to~~ the transmission information ~~for a header or footer~~ is embedded.

29.   (Currently Amended) A storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus, which has means for reading an image and successively storing image data representing the image in a buffer, in order to transmit the image data:

means for extracting the image data from the buffer in prescribed area units of the image;

means for compressing each item of image data that has been extracted and adding on a marker that is for embedding ~~adding on~~ transmission information for a header or footer;

means for storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for detecting the marker from the compressed image data that has been stored in the memory and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the compressed image data with compressed data in which ~~relating to~~ the transmission information is embedded.

30.   (Canceled)

31.   (Currently Amended) A storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus in order to transmit image data:

means for compressing the image data and adding on a marker that is for embedding ~~adding on~~ transmission information for a header or footer;

means for storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for detecting the marker from the compressed image data that has been stored in the memory, replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the compressed image data with compressed data ~~relating to~~ in which the transmission information is embedded, and transmitting the compressed image data without expanding or re-compressing it.